

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are all the claims pending in the application.

The Examiner has indicated that the certified copy of the Priority Document has been received in the National Stage application from the International Bureau. However, the certified copy of the Priority Document was actually filed by Applicants on December 21, 2000. The Examiner is respectfully requested to indicate the same in the next paper from the Office.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tajiri et al. (EP 0851414).

Analysis

Tajiri (EP 0851414) discloses the end of each of the lead frames 141 and 142 projecting outward from the upper frame member 21B (see col. 22, line 48-50 and Fig. 26), but does not disclose that the lead frames 141 and 142 are *embedded* in the upper frame member 21B (or the lower frame member 21A). Further, Tajiri discloses that the end of each of the lead frames 141 and 142 is arranged along a horizontal **surface** 211B in the upper frame member 21B, and its leading end is folded along the vertical **surface** 210B (see col. 22, lines 40-43 and Fig. 26). Thus, it is clear that the lead frames 141 and 142 are not bent (folded) *inside* the upper frame member 21B. Instead, the lead frames are merely disposed on top of these surfaces but are not embedded inside the frame members.

In the present invention, by embedding the bent portions in the resin package, the strength of the resin package is improved (see specification, page 8). The prior art fails to teach or suggest this feature.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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In view of the foregoing, the claimed invention according to claims 1 and 6 is not anticipated by Tajiri.

The remaining rejections are directed to the dependent claims 2-5. These claims are patentable for at least the same reasons discussed above, and by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen R. Smith
Registration No. 43,042

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 15, 2004

Attorney Docket No.: Q62290